

BID SPECIFICATIONS

The intended system will provide emergency messages via text messaging (SMS {text} and email) to subscribers in a geographical area. This information is distributed locally using the data subcarrier of Frequency Modulated (FM) radio stations. This system will allow emergency management officials to create and send digital alerts and messages to recipients such as first responders, school officials, other defined groups, businesses, and citizens based on geographic or organizational groupings.

These messages may be originated by nine specific counties within Alabama and/or the Alabama Emergency Management Agency. Those nine counties are Pickens, Sumter, Lamar, Wilcox, Dallas, Marengo, Greene, Hale and Perry (collectively, the "Black Belt Counties").

Messages that are generated are displayed on data-capable devices and/or dedicated receivers and/or any other device utilizing a USB type port.

The proposed system must meet all of the following requirements:

- A. Must be able to send automated NOAA weather warnings and alerts. The system must be able to be configured so that NOAA warnings are delivered county specific instead of the entire state or area.
- B. Must be able to send alerts and messages from county emergency management agencies and the Alabama Emergency Management Agency.
- C. Message must be delivered using commercial FM broadcast signals.
- D. Must contain a web-based administrative portal that will provide the ability to send messages using any internet portal using a secure password and login connection. The Web-based administrative portals must control message origination, group creation and management, and contain sub-administration capabilities. The administrative portal must detail message delivery with time, date and sender.
- E. There must be no recurring usage fees, messaging fees, or maintenance fees for the county or state after the license is paid. All coordination with the local broadcaster will be the responsibility of the selected vendor.
- F. The selected vendor must be able to train each of the county emergency management agency directors on how to access the portal, administer the system, originate messages and program any receivers. The vendor must train the county emergency management agency directors in each county at a location and time specified by the county director.

G. The notification system must allow single point messaging to multi-point end users. It must be able to be configured so that warnings are delivered to the entire county, individual zip codes or selected groups within 90 seconds after activation.

H. The system must be able to be configured to send messages to groups (i.e. emergency managers, county administrators, first responders, school administrators or citizens). The selected vendor must develop the initial groups according to the County's Emergency Management Agency requirements (ie. Fire, police, etc.). Private citizens must be able to subscribe to appropriate groups.

I. The system must allow messages to be received by end users inside buildings.

J. The system must not be limited to the number of messages it can send at a time (i.e. can't use a telephone network to limit the number of calls to be made). The alert messaging system must be independent of switched telephone systems.

K. Receivers must be able to be portable without losing addressability or message receipt capability. The system must be able to send messages anywhere within the county and not be limited by end user location. The receivers must be able to be transported with on a person. In addition, the vendor must be able to provide fixed receivers as well. AEMA desires to place the fixed receivers in government facilities (i.e. schools, 911 centers, etc.)

L. The intent of this system is to provide a means for a large area notification system that will provide 100% coverage in the Black Belt Counties. The system must be CAP 1.0 compliant or the current industry standard (if higher) at the time of installation. All equipment, design and system engineering, coordination and licensing is to be included to provide a complete operational system. It is the bidder's responsibility to determine coverage areas, number of broadcast stations that would require equipment, required system equipment and location of equipment to be installed.

M. The total amount of funding for this project is \$250,000. This must be able to purchase a license that will pay for the system build out, licensing, portal, specified number of receivers, and operation.

N. Accessories, (such as strobe lights and text to voice converters) must be available for alerting blind and deaf citizens. Unit must be capable of accommodating ADA compliant external handicapped accessible peripheral devices such as strobes, pillow vibrator, etc.

O. The project must be completed and fully operational by September 30, 2010.

2. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND COMMENTS: The bid should include any additional information that is believed to be pertinent but not explicitly asked for elsewhere in this ITB.